FOREST SERVICE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

THE FOREST SERVICE

History Line

CMC

To: History Coordinators
Forest Service Personnel

1680
Spring 1984

TRAPPERS LAKE, PART OF THE FLAT TOPS WILDERNESS in the White River National Forest, Colorado. The land of this scenic gem was once scheduled to be divided into summer home lots for the general public. At the strong urging of Arthur Carhart, Rocky Mountain Region landscape engineer, 1919-23, it was retained in its natural state instead and never was built up. It is the largest natural lake in the State. (National Archives photo 95G-355393)

LIBRARY COPY
ROCKY MTN. FOREST & RANGE
EXPERIMENT STATION

Washington Office History Projects

A History of Range Management in the Forest Service by William Rowley. To be published by Texas A&M University Press late in 1984 or early in 1985.

A History of State and Private Cooperative Forestry in the Forest Service by William Honey et at. Revised draft received. It is being considered by a university press. Publication planned 1985.

A History of the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Forest Service by William Honey et al. Revised Draft received. Publication late in 1984 or early in 1985.

A History of the Intermountain Region of the Forest Service by Thomas Alexander of Brigham Young University. Work has begun. Publication planned in 1986.

A History of the Pacific Southwest Region of the Forest Service by Lee Pendergrass. Work has begun. Publication planned in 1986.

A History of the Southwestern Region of the Forest Service. Contract awarded to Intaglio, Inc., College Station, Tex.

FIRST WOMEN FORESTERS

Probably the first woman to be employed as a forester by the USDA Forest Service was Margaret C. Stoughton Abell, who was appointed to the Appalachian Forest Experiment Station July 22, 1930. In 1931 she married Charles A. Abell, who was also a junior forester at the station. Her work included both office tasks and experience in the field—this last, in silviculture and forest damage—before she retired in 1936. Mrs. Abell was, in addition, the first woman forester to graduate from Iowa State College.

She says that Jo Darlington graduated in forestry from the University of Montana in 1929, and that Julia Lee McDill graduated in forestry from Yale in 1931 with a MF degree. And the first woman employed by the Forest Service in a professional capacity was Eloise Gerry, who worked at the Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, WI, from 1910 to 1955. She had a PhD in Botany (1921) from the University of Wisconsin The first woman to receive a bachelor's degree in forestry in the country may have been Alice Craig, class of 1928, University of California.

Perhaps the first woman hired as a forest guard in the Forest Service was Hallie M. Daggett, on June 1, 1913 on the Klamath National Forest in northern California. The first woman district ranger was Wendy Herrett, Blanco Ranger District, White River National Forest, Region 2, August 1979 to October 1981. She is now in the Washington Office.

SMOKEY BEAR ANNIVERSARY

The Smokey Bear public service program is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year. The observance began on March 12 when Washington Office officials unveiled posters, songs, a new logo, and many other special materials.

The program has become one of the most successful advertising and promotion projects in history. It was begun in 1944 as a way to help prevent man-caused forest fires. In 1950 a little bear cub was found in New Mexico, orphaned by a forest fire. It was given the name Smokey and taken to the National Zoo in Washington, D.C., to serve as a living symbol. He died in 1976 and was replaced by another young bear from New Mexico. The bear is one of the Zoo's main attractions.

Smokey's Washington Office artist, Rudy Wendelin, is having an exhibition of his art work at Grey Towers, Milford, Pa., the Pinchot mansion, opening June 3.

History Activities in the Field

NORTHERN REGION

A prehistoric overview of the Lolo and the Bitterroot National Forests will be conducted during the current fiscal year. The region has two new archeologists, Becky Timmons on the Kootenai and Mike Ryan on the Custer National Forests.

The Prehistory of the Custer National Forest: An Overview, has been issued, authored by Michael R. Beckes and James D. Keyser. It has 590 pages. A brief history of the Sioux Ranger District of the Custer National Forest also has been issued.

Lewis E. (Gene) Hawkes, retired Supervisor of the Gallatin National Forest, has volunteered to write a history of the Forest and is asking for contributions of narrative material to assist him. Material may be sent to him c/o Information Office, Gallatin National Forest, P.O. Box 130, Bozeman, MT 59715.

A Pictorial History of Smokejumping by Stanley Cohen is available for $10.95 plus $1.50 postage from Pictorial Histories Publishing Co., 713 South Third West, Missoula, MT 59801. The 180-page book has over 300 photos, four in color.

Horseshoe Lake Lookout on the Clearwater National Forest, no longer in use, was recently destroyed as a safety hazard. It was built in the early 1920's. Nine lookouts are still in use on the Forest, and 90 in the Region. Horse logging has returned to the Region for small sales and to protect sensitive sites from disturbance. Horse logging sales were completed on the Flathead National Forest and are planned on the Kootenai.

The first national reunion of smokejumpers will be at the Aerial Fire Depot near Missoula, July 20-22. There are over 10,000 alumni around the country.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION

A history of the Black Hills National Forest is being written under the supervision of Carl Miller, professor of history at Black Hills State College. The job was subcontracted to Plano Consultants, Longmont, CO. The contract was signed a year ago and the finished written product is expected this summer. Copies will be available from the regional cultural resources office.

On the San Juan National Forest, 12 historic sites are being marked with signs by the Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs. One, near Dolores, CO, commemorates the days of narrow gauge railroad logging.

SOUTHWESTERN REGION

A history of the Southwestern Region is to be written under the sponsorship of the History Section of the Washington Office. The study will have three goals: (1) to trace the development of programs, activities, and policies in that Region; (2) to provide a framework for present and future decision making; (3) to give employees a sense of identification with the Forest Service and the Region in particular. The successful bidder, Intaglio of College Station, TX, will have about two years to conduct research and prepare the manuscript.

The Coronado National Forest has been awarded the 1983 Governor's Award for the best historic preservation project in Arizona, the Elden Pueblo in Flagstaff.

Retiree John W. Johnson has written a book, Reminiscences of a Forest Ranger, published by Brown & Kroger.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION

Dr. Thomas Alexander, professor of history and director of the Charles Redd Center for Western Studies at Brigham Young University, has begun

History Activities in the Field

research on a history of the Intermountain Region. He works for the contractor, Mesa Corp. of Orem, Utah. The history will review major changes in resource management and protection philosophies and techniques over the past eight decades, and the influence of these changes on local communities. Philip Johnson, Regional History Coordinator, is the local inspector for the project. Alexander has interviewed all staffs in the Regional office and 14 retirees in the Ogden area.

Bridger-Teton and Challis National Forests marked 75 years of existence with open house at the Supervisors' offices.

Two old log cabins on the Jim Moore place on the Salmon River, Nezperce National Forest, have been rehabilitated by the Forest Service. The property is now managed by the Forest as part of the Wild and Scenic River corridor within the River of No Return Wilderness. All historical sites along the main Salmon River have been inventoried by the Forest Service.

The building complex at the old Fish Lake Ranger Station, built by the CCC 50 years ago, is still in use as summer headquarters for the Loa Ranger District on the Fishlake National Forest.

A History of the Boise National Forest, 1905-1976, by Elizabeth M. Smith, is now available from the Idaho Historical Society, 610 N. Julia Davis Dr., Boise, ID 83702, for $8.36.

PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGION

A contract for a history of Region 5 has been awarded to PenSEC Inc. of Edmonds, WA. A short manuscript will also be prepared in a popular style for new employees and other interested persons. The writer is Dr. Lee Pendergrass, a professional historian with extensive experience in public history and historical research. Regional Forester Zane Smith when notifying Forest Supervisors of the project, stated, "I have and will continue to lend my personal support to this effort because of its importance to present and future generations of Forest Service employees. With rapid changes in the Forest Service, including an emphasis on planning for the future, it becomes critically important for us not to lose sight of our traditions, which are deeply rooted in our history."

One of the first ranger stations built with Government funds, the West Fork Ranger Station on the Angeles National Forest, was dismantled and removed from its original location to save it from repeated vandalism, termites, and decay. The one-room log cabin is being rebuilt next to the Chilao Visitor Center. It is a State Historical Landmark, built in 1900 by four rangers.

The Civilian Conservation Corps in California, a narrative and photo history, has been written by Donald Hobart of 7515 P St., Sacramento, CA 95816.

Management Development in the U.S. Forest Service, 1966-1981, a Historical Review, has been written by Meyer M. Cahn and Elaine B. Douglas of San Francisco. The 75 page book covers management and supervisory training.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGION

The scenic Columbia River highway of 55 miles has been added to the National Register of Historic Places. It was built through the Columbia River Gorge between 1913 and 1922 on the Oregon side.

Friends of Timberline, a nonprofit organization dedicated to continuing the restoration of the arts and crafts of Timberline Lodge on Mt. Hood, is selling hand forged pokers and andirons made by an apprentice to the head blacksmith.

History Activities in the Field

On the Mountain's Brink, a Forest Service History of the 1980 Mount St. Helens Volcanic Emergency, authored by three history interns from Portland State University, has been published in 82 pages by the Region.

The region plans to use other university level interns to assist with a history storage inventory of items in over 100 boxes of records and donated papers from retirees (books, photos and artifacts), also with oral histories and special topics.

A comprehensive history of the Fremont National Forest, completed in 1981, is being revised and updated.

On the Siskiyou National Forest, Glenn W. Rich, volunteer, has completed a 49 page inventory of historic photographs and slides. Tish M. Steinfeld, Forest archeologist, has completed a 7 page list of historic artifacts, books, and maps.

For the Willamette National Forest, Stephen D. Beckham of Heritage Research Associates has prepared under contract a 136 page study, The Oregon Central Military Wagon Road: A History and Reconnaissance. Also, The Santiam Wagon Road: An Historic Preservation Study has been completed by Guminski, Brodsky, and Gilmore, as a student project, University of Oregon.

For the Winema National Forest, Royal H. Jackson and Jennifer A. Lee of Heritage Associates have prepared under contract a two-volume set of 14 transcribed oral interviews with Indians, loggers, ranchers, Forest Service personnel, and others.

Gerald W. Williams, sociologist and social historian, Umpqua National Forest, has written many papers on local history. Among recent ones are "The Civilian Conservation Corps' Contribution to the Forests in the Pacific Northwest Region"; "Letter to Home—Life in CCC Camps in Douglas County, Oregon" (edited letters and photographs of Norman Meyers); "The Civilian Conservation Corps: A Pragmatic Response to the Great Depression"; "Unique Historical Sources and Interpretation in the National Forests of the Pacific Northwest"; "Over Here, Over Here: The Army's Spruce Production Division During 'The War to End All Wars'"; and "Historic Forest Service Publications for the Pacific Northwest Region."

Retiree M. M. (Red) Nelson has compiled a brief history of the Umpqua National Forest.

Seventy-fifth anniversaries were marked in various ways during the past year by the Malheur, Gifford Pinchot, Siuslaw, Deschutes, Rogue River and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests.

A history of the old Glacier Ranger District, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, has been published, entitled Northing Up the Nooksack. Alan Schmierer, visitor information assistant on Mt. Baker Ranger District, put the history together. It is based on a cultural resource report of the area, done in 1980-81. The old ranger station built by the CCC is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

The Hodgson-Lindberg Training Center and bunkhouse at the Wind River Nursery on the Gifford Pinchot National Forest are slated to be refurbished and returned to their original use. They were built by Civilian Conservation Corps labor in the 1930's. The Center has been nominated for the National Register of Historic places status.

A 1910 Forest Service log cabin on the Clackamas Ranger District, Olallie Meadow cabin, has been stabilized by replacing decayed parts.

An outstanding example of CCC work during the 1930's is the building complex at Gold Beach Ranger Station, Siskiyou National Forest, which is still in use. The buildings are scheduled to be listed in the National

History Activities in the Field

Register of Historic Places. Also built by the CCC are the Store Gulch and Grayback guard stations and the Grayback campground on the Illinois Valley Ranger District near Cave Junction.

Three of the four existing ranger stations on the Fremont National Forest were constructed by CCC men in 1936. The Bly Ranger Station office and residences are on the National Register of Historic Places.

A CCC-built picnic shelter at Hebo Lake on the Siuslaw National Forest has just been rebuilt by 15 volunteers.

SOUTHERN REGION

The Region is planning to observe the 50th anniversary of its organization on June 30.

A slide tape of the Civilian Conservation Corps in the Southern Region entitled "Spirit of the CCC" has just been completed by Sharon Young, history coordinator. Copies will be distributed to field offices.

The National Forests in Alabama co-sponsored a CCC 50th anniversary celebration with Cheaha State Park and Fort McClellan. Plans were announced to establish a CCC Museum at Cheaha State Park, and many items were donated at the event.

Also in Alabama, the Talladega Ranger District and the Mobile Chapter of CCC Alumni exhibited the Hollins Fire Tower at many fairs around the state. The tower, erected by the CCC in 1937, was dismantled by the Forest Service in 1980.

The Chattahoochee-Oconee in Georgia reported that its Districts commemorated the CCC anniversary by collecting CCC records and by interviewing many former CCC members. The Tallulah Ranger District made CCC structures available for state officials to visit last fall. The Chattahoochee's Cohutta District collected historical photographs of the CCC camps, activities, etc., for display. District personnel are also transcribing from microfilm newspaper articles written by CCC alumni. Also on the Chattahoochee, the Armuchee Ranger District's History of the Pocket Recreation Area has been completed and published. This area was a CCC camp.

National Forests in Florida reported three major history efforts: First, several oral history interviews are being conducted on the Ocala NF by local volunteers and District Archeologist Allen Dorian. Second, Forest Archeologist Sandra Jo Forney presented a paper on naval stores artifacts, at the annual meeting of the Society for Historical Archeology, in Williamsburg, VA. Ms. Forney's paper was the result of five years of research and archeological field investigation. A third major project: Dave Parrish, Sandra Jo Forney, and Connie Dikard have produced a slide/tape program, "History of the Ocala National Forest."

The Civilian Conservation Corps Alumni in Arkansas has begun an oral history project which will chronicle the enrollee experience in various CCC camps.

A rebuilt 1915 Climax No. 3 narrow gauge logging locomotive has gone on static display at the Cradle of Forestry in America center, Pisgah National Forest, NC. It is located at a portable steam sawmill adjoining a log loader and flatcar piled with logs. An engine house was built to protect the locomotive in winter and to house old logging photos. The National Forests in North Carolina conducted dedication ceremonies at the Cradle of Forestry for their restored locomotive and a new Forest Festival Trail. A CCC 50th anniversary celebration was held there the same day, as was a symposium on the history of logging.

History Activities in the Field

EASTERN REGION

A retirees group for the Eastern Region has been organized with Robert Prauss as president. Information is available from him at 6455 W. Glenbrook Road, Brown Deer, WI 53223.

The Chippewa National Forest celebrated its 75th anniversary with a public auction of surplus property, an open house with historic photos on display, tours, and a CCC reunion and Forest picnic, the latter at Camp Rabideau. Camp Rabideau is on the National Register of Historic Places, and is one of the few CCC camps in the country with buildings still standing.

The Chequamegon National Forest celebrated its 50th anniversary with a picnic and re-dedication ceremony on the Glidden Ranger District and many special events. All offices held open houses during the year and had displays at local fairs.

On the Allegheny National Forest, 450 former CCC enrollees and other guests gathered at former Camp Pebble Dell near Marienville, PA for a day of reminiscing. Featured were memorabilia, displays, a videotape of the CCC, self guided tours and an outdoor barbecue. Many of the original buildings are still being used.

On the Mark Twain National Forest, Carolyn Hammond, who worked as an archivist, has developed filing systems by subject and number for artifacts, recorded tapes, documents, photographs, slides, and negatives. Some Ranger districts are keeping their own files. The Forest collection includes the Paul Kelleter lantern slide collection of 430 glass slides. He was the second Forest supervisor. Ms. Hammond made 36 taperecorded interviews with retired Forest Service personnel, long time area residents, and former CCC enrollees. The Forest hopes to have a comprehensive history written in the near future. It is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

On the Monongahela, Pickle Knob Lookout Tower was reconstructed as a public observation tower and opened to the public. The last two towers on the Shawnee, Honey School and Dry Hill, were dismantled.

On the White Mountain National Forest, the Brackett Place in Evans Notch was placed on the National Register of Historic Places as a unique example of 19th century vernacular federalist architecture.

INTERMOUNTAIN STATION

"Fire and Vegetative Trends in the Northern Rockies: Interpretations From 1871-1982 Photographs" by George E. Gruell is a new publication. Eighty-six sites are compared with historic and modern photos to show vegetative changes after years of protection from wildfires. In most cases conifers have expanded their range. The author believes in improving wildlife by controlling the growth of conifers. "Blister Rust Resistant Western White Pine for the Inland Empire: the Story of the First 25 years of the Research and Development Program", by Richard T. Bingham, is the title of a recent publication, GTR INT-146. The Forest Service will be mass producing second generation, rust resistant white pines for the Inland Empire, two-thirds of which will withstand severe exposure to local races of blister rust.

PACIFIC SOUTHWEST STATION

Harry W. Camp is writing a history of forest recreation research in the Forest Service under an agreement with the Station. Mr. Camp was the first Chief of Forest Recreation Research, appointed in 1959. He is examinining written sources as well as interviewing individuals prominent in the

History Activities in the Field

program. He has been working on the project for the past year and expects to take another year to complete his report.

A History of the Dalton and San Dimas Watersheds and the San Dimas Experimental Forest has been written by John W. Robinson. It was published in the Spring and Summer 1980 issues of Mt. San Antonio Historian, a publication of the Historical Society of Pomona Valley, California. The watersheds and the Experimental Forest adjoin the Angeles National Forest. The Forest is an outdoor laboratory dedicated to learning about soil, vegetation, and erosion in mountain watersheds. The long history of stuggle over water rights is described. Studies of the causes and effects of fire and flood have resulted in better knowledge of these natural phenomena, and better methods of coping with them. The Forest has become a center of research and knowledge about chaparrel watersheds.

FOREST HISTORY SOCIETY

Two paperbound books published by the Forest History Society are now available. One is Forest History Museums of the World, compiled by Kathryn A. Fahl, an 83 page illustrated indexed directory listing 314 museums in 33 countries. It may be purchased for $8.50 from the Society, at 109 Coral St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060. The other is David T. Mason, Forestry Advocate, by Elmo Richardson, a 145 page biographical study of the "father" of sustained yield Forestry in America. The book may be ordered from the Society for $6.00.

The new Encyclopedia of American Forest and Conservation History has been published by Macmillan Publishing Co. in two volumes. The price is $150 per set.

A session on forest history of the Rocky Mountain Region will be held at the annual meeting of the Society in Denver starting October 18.

Foresters' Wives History Project

In continuation of its ongoing History Project, the Foresters' Wives Club of Washington, D.C., is issuing another nationwide appeal for stories of wives of Forest Service men whose service included years between 1905 and 1950. Please send any stories to: Mrs. Gordon D. Fox, 6215 Dahlonega Road, Bethesda, MD 20816 before July 1,1984.

Aerial Firefighting Exhibit

In October the Smithsonian's Air and Space Museum is scheduled to open an exhibit on Forest Service aerial firefighting techniques. The idea for this exhibit was conceived when Dennis Roth visited the Missoula Aerial Fire Depot two years ago and spoke with Mike Bowman who expressed surprise that the Smithsonian did not have a smokejumping exhibit. Upon his return to Washington, D.C., Dennis proposed a smokejumping exhibit to Aviation and Fire Management Staff (A&FM), which requested that the exhibit be broadened to include several types of aerial firefighting techniques. Mary Barr of A&FM has been coordinating the Forest Service's participation in this project. John Harper and other members of the Missoula Fire Depot also have devoted much time to the project.

FOREST SERVICE, USDA
P.O. BOX 2417
Washington, DC 20013
Official Business
Penalty for Private Use: $300

*U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1984 0-420-932/2167